

# **Profile of Committed Juveniles in Virginia's Juvenile Correctional Centers**



***Commission on Youth  
October 20, 2010***

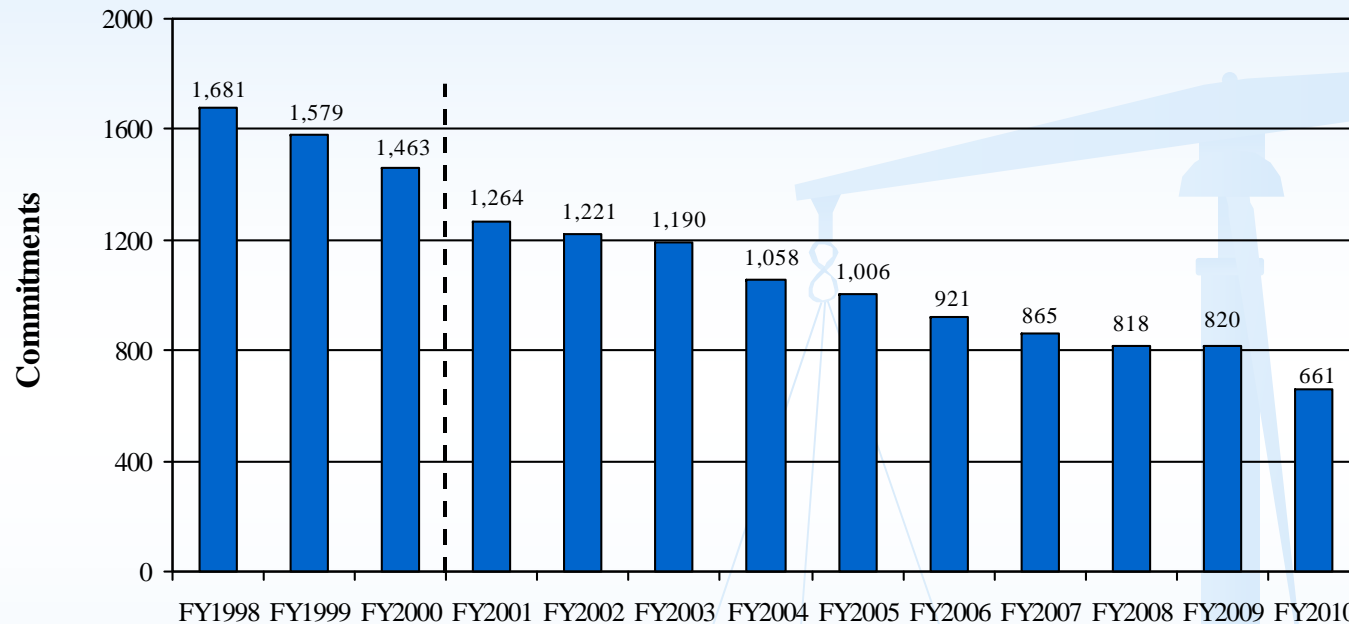
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# Overview

- JCC Juvenile Population Trends
- Recidivism
- Special Projects and Initiatives



# State Responsible Juvenile Offender Commitments\* FY1998 – FY2010



- Commitments have continued to decline since FY1998. Commitments have decreased by 60.7% since FY1998.
- In July 2000, the eligibility criteria for commitment to DJJ changed from *two* class 1 misdemeanors to *four* class 1 misdemeanors (guilty adjudications).

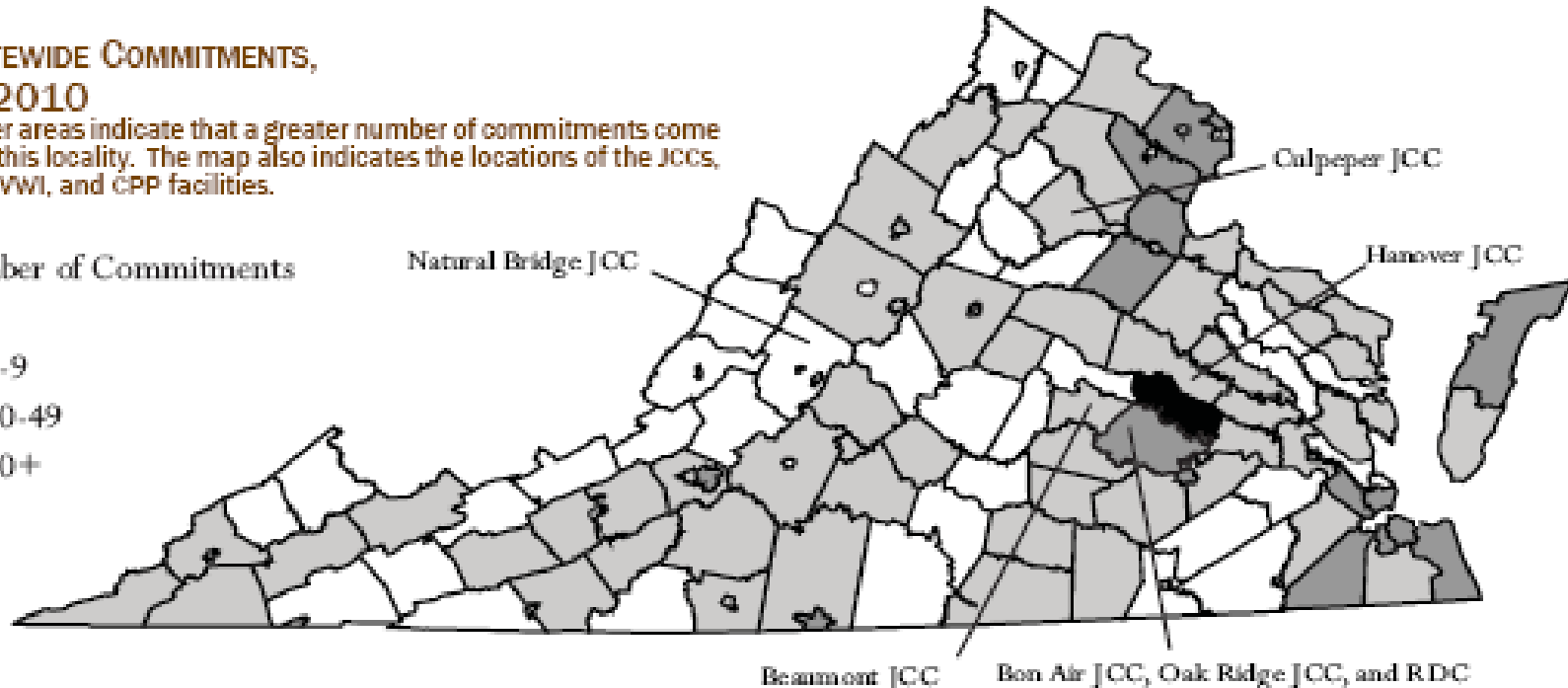
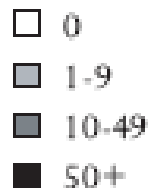
\* Appealed cases are included.

# Commitments by Locality, FY2010

## STATEWIDE COMMITMENTS, FY 2010

Darker areas indicate that a greater number of commitments come from this locality. The map also indicates the locations of the JCCs, RDC, VWI, and CPP facilities.

### Number of Commitments



According to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook, among the 38 states with an upper age of jurisdiction of 17, Virginia ranked 25th in the number of committed youth per 100,000 in 2006.

- Of those juveniles committed to DJJ:
  - 19.6% (119) were from the Western Region
  - 37.3% (227) were from the Northern Region
  - 43.1% (262) were from the Eastern Region

# Demographics of JCC Admissions

Admissions by Demographics\*, FY2007 - 2010

	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Race</b>				
Black	66.0%	66.1%	66.7%	64.8%
White	27.0%	25.7%	25.7%	28.0%
Other	7.0%	8.2%	7.6%	7.2%
<b>Ethnicity- Hispanic</b>	6.5%	5.5%	6.0%	7.1%
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	90.8%	92.1%	92.7%	94.7%
Female	9.2%	7.9%	7.3%	5.3%
<b>Age</b>				
Under 14	1.7%	1.9%	1.6%	1.2%
14	6.8%	6.5%	5.0%	4.4%
15	17.4%	15.7%	16.7%	13.5%
16	28.7%	27.7%	31.8%	24.5%
17	37.6%	40.6%	36.6%	44.4%
18	7.0%	7.1%	7.3%	11.0%
19 or older	0.8%	0.4%	1.0%	1.0%
<b>Total Admissions</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>608</b>

\* Racial and Ethnic data may not be comparable to *Data Resource Guides* prior to FY 2008.

- For FY2007-2010, juveniles at admission were most likely to be:
  - Black (64.8% – 66.0%)
  - Male (90.8% – 94.7%)
  - Age 16 or 17 (66.3% -68.9%)
- Between FY2007 and FY2010, total JCC admissions decreased 27.0%

## **Juvenile Profiles at Admission to RDC\*, FY2004 - 2008**

- Juveniles at admission to RDC:
  - 10-12% lived with both biological parents, compared to 61% nationally.
  - 37-52% of females and 17-20% of males reported experiencing sexual abuse/assault or physical abuse.
  - For FY2006-2008, 49-56% were categorized as having a high probability of substance abuse disorder or substance dependence disorder.
  - 37-41% were recommended for special education services.
  - 58-65% had an FSIQ score less than 90, compared to 25% of the general population.
  - 43-51% reported at least one prior out of home mental health/substance abuse treatment placement.

\* Data as reported in the *Profiles of Committed Juveniles: FY2004-2008*. All data collected using the Juvenile Profile completed by multi-disciplinary teams during the evaluation process at the Reception & Diagnostic Center. The majority of information is based on the juvenile's self-report.

## **Juvenile Profiles at Admission to RDC\* (cont.), FY2004 - 2008**

- Juveniles at admission to RDC:
  - 72-79% reported at least one prior mental health/substance abuse outpatient service.
  - 54-58% reported having a previous or current prescription for at least one psychotropic medication
  - 25-28% had at least one documented self-injurious behavior.
  - Excluding Attention Deficit and Disruptive Disorders and Substance-Related Disorders, 57.1% of juveniles appeared to have significant symptoms of at least one mental health disorder. (Meets minimum DSM-IV criteria
  - 14-27% of males and 8-20% of females reported experiencing a prior head injury.
  - An average of 9% of juveniles were assigned mandatory sex offender treatment

\* Data as reported in the *Profiles of Committed Juveniles: FY2004-2008*. All data collected using the Juvenile Profile completed by multi-disciplinary teams during the evaluation process at the Reception & Diagnostic Center. The majority of information is based on the juvenile's self-report.

# Offense Severity

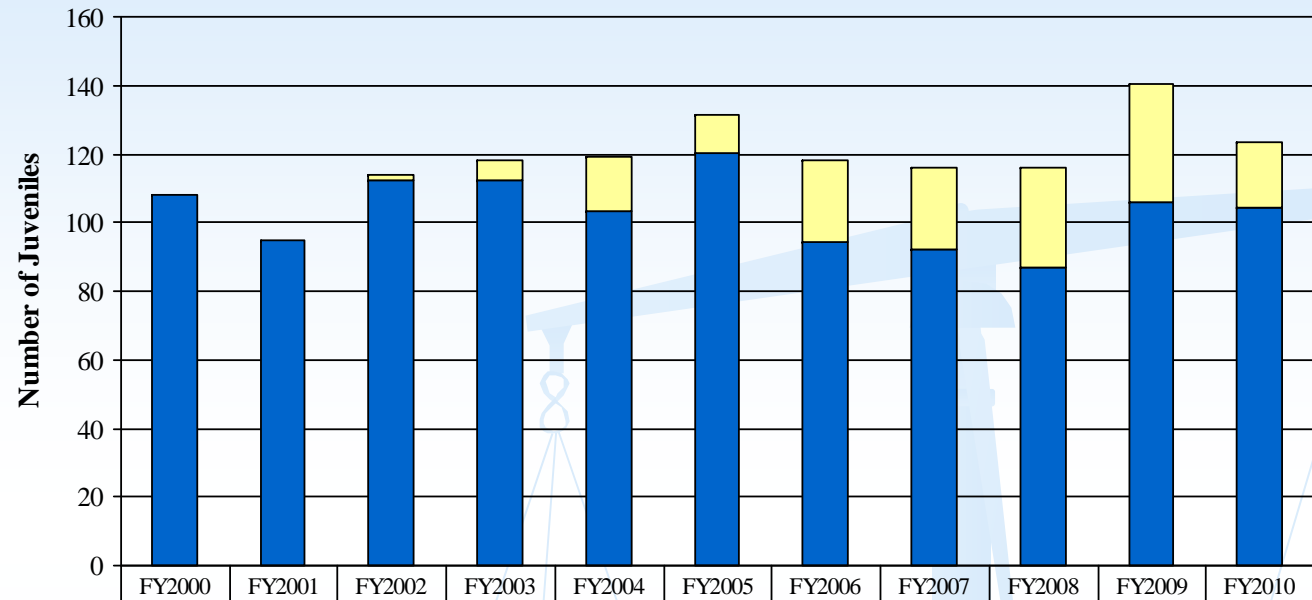
JCC Admission by Most Serious Offense,  
FY2008-2010

Offense Severity	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010
<b>Felonies:</b>			
Against Persons	43.4%	46.6%	43.3%
Weapons/Narcotics	7.0%	5.4%	5.1%
Other	34.9%	31.2%	37.3%
<b>Class 1 Misdemeanors:</b>			
Against Persons	5.7%	7.1%	5.6%
Other	5.1%	5.1%	4.3%
Parole Violation	3.8%	4.6%	4.1%
Court Violation	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Status Offenses	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
Information Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total Admissions</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>608</b>

- Between FY2008 to FY2010:
  - Felonies comprised 85.7% of JCC admissions in FY2010
  - Total felonies and Class 1 Misdemeanors at admission remained relatively stable
  - Weapons/Narcotics felonies decreased 27.1%
- Total admissions decreased 21.0%.



# Juveniles Determinately Committed to DJJ\* FY2000 – FY2010

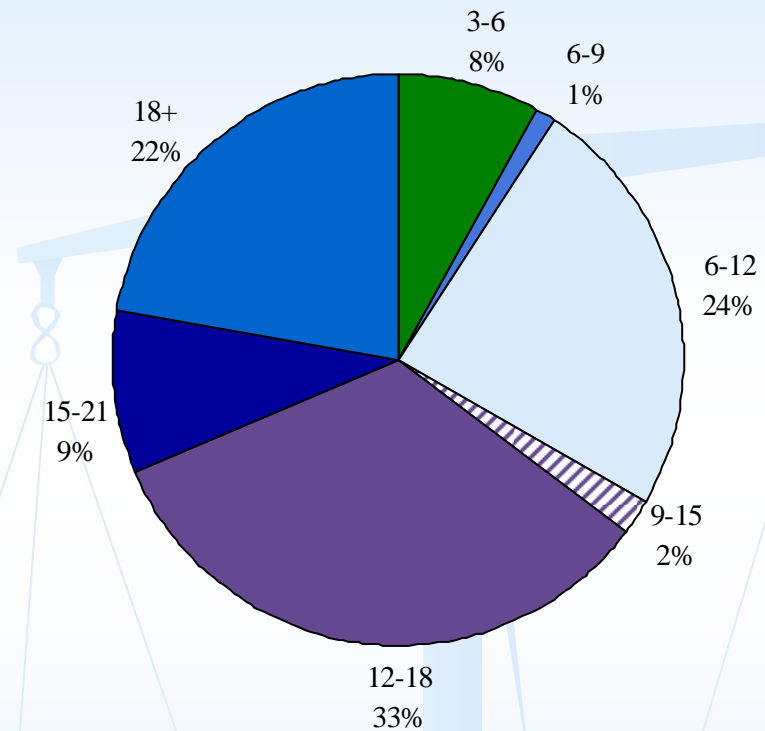
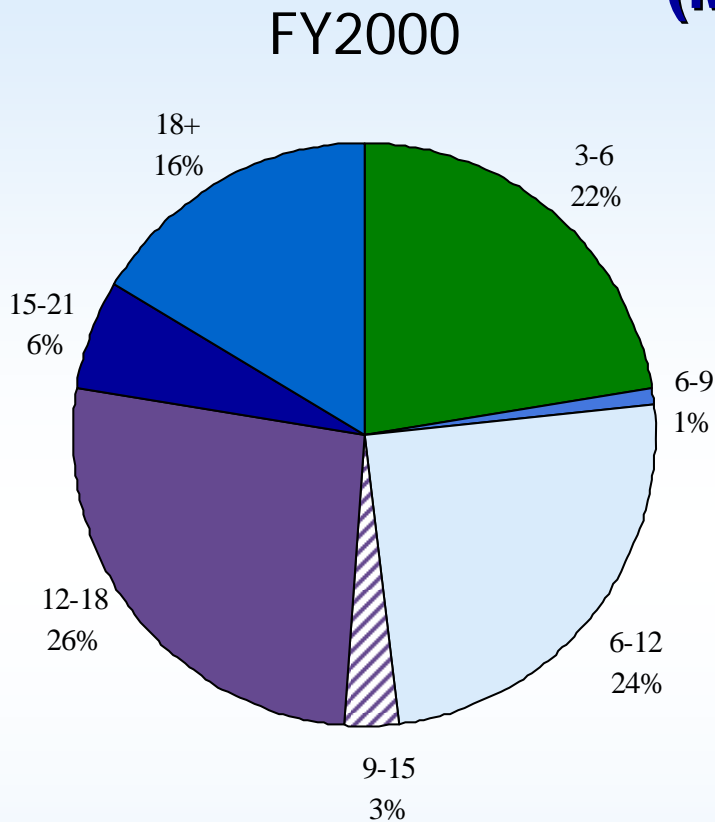


	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010
Blended Sentence			2	6	16	11	24	24	29	34	19
Determinate Sentence	108	95	112	112	103	120	94	92	87	106	104
Det./Blended as % of total commitments	7.4%	7.5%	9.3%	9.9%	11.2%	13.0%	12.8%	13.4%	14.2%	17.1%	18.6%
Average (Months) for Det. Sentences	37.4	38.0	41.3	37.5	39.1	40.8	42.1	41.0	39.6	40.7	39.1

- Pursuant to §16.1-285.1 of the Code of Virginia, serious offenders can be determinately committed to the Department from either J & DR or Circuit Court. These residents have a fixed sentence, and are not impacted by the Department's length of stay policy.
- Between FY 2006 and FY 2008, determinate/blended sentences increased slightly as a percentage of total commitments from 12.8% to 14.2%. In FY 2010, this percentage increased to 18.6%. The most frequent sentence increased from 12 months in FY1998 to 35 months in FY2010.
- The average actual LOS for determinately committed juveniles released in FY2010 was 30 months.

\* Appealed cases are included.

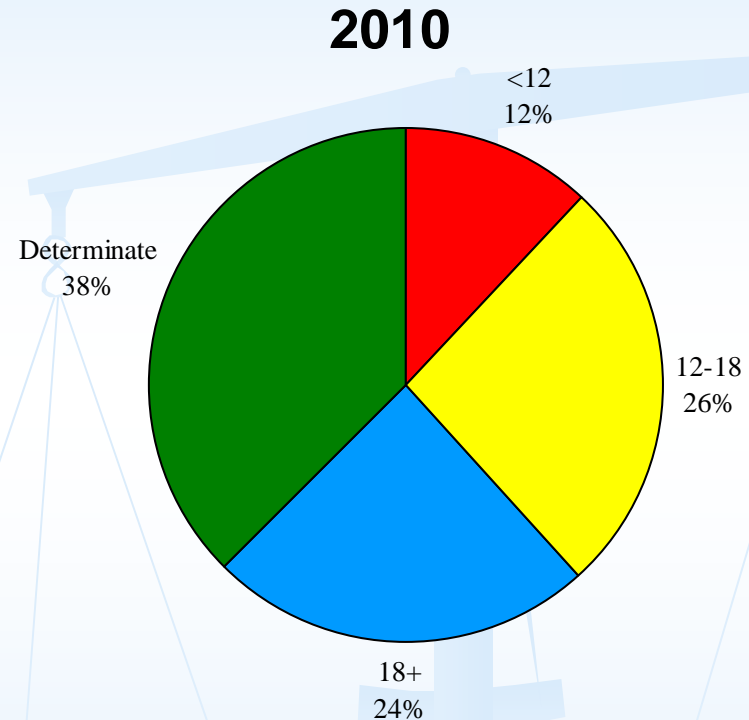
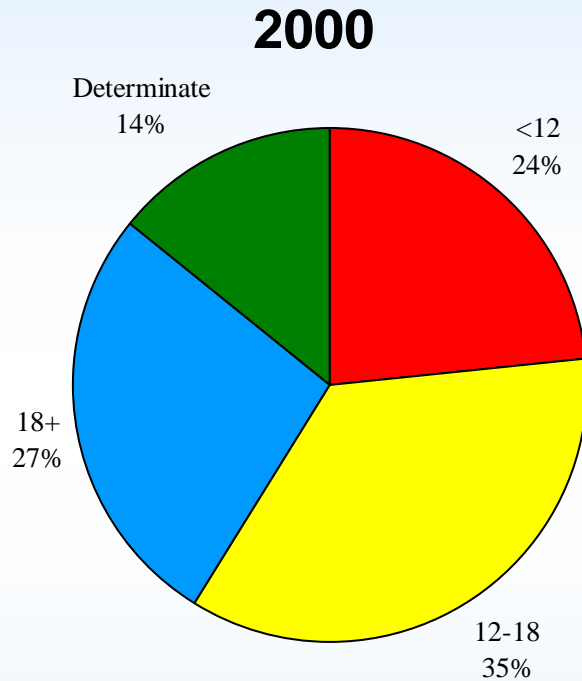
# Indeterminate Commitments by LOS Category\* (Months)



- In July 2000, the eligibility criteria for commitment to DJJ changed from *two* class 1 misdemeanors to *four* class misdemeanors (guilty adjudications).
- The percentage of juveniles with a minimum LOS of 18 months increased from 16% in FY2000 to 21% in FY2010.
- The percentage of juveniles with a LOS of 3-6 months decreased from 22% in FY2000 to 8% in FY2010.

\* Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

# Juvenile Correctional Center Populations on July 1<sup>st</sup>



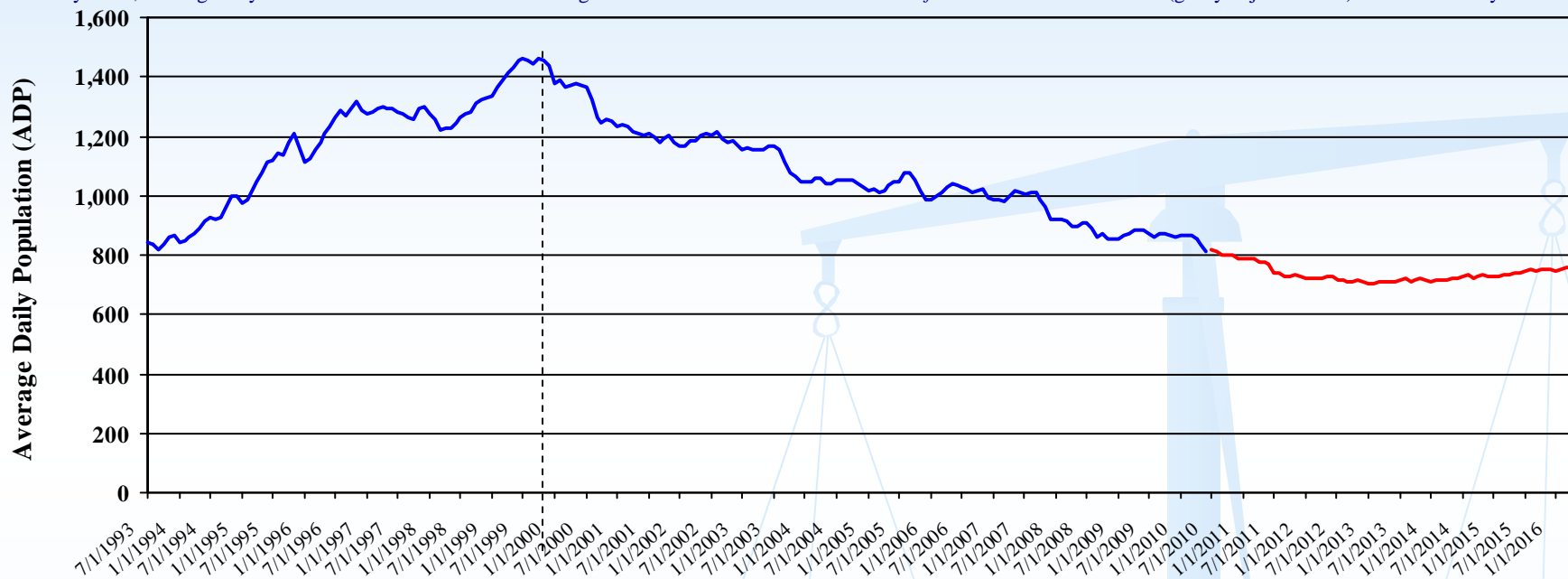
- Juveniles with a longer LOS (either 18+ months or determinate/blended) have increased from 41% in FY2000 to 61% in FY2010.
- Pursuant to §16.1-285 of the Code of Virginia, no juvenile committed indeterminately will be held/detained longer than 36 months or go beyond the juvenile's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

# State Responsible Juvenile Population

## Historical FY1994 – FY2010

## Forecast, FY2011 – FY2016

In July 2000, the eligibility criteria for commitment to DJJ changed from *two* Class 1 misdemeanors to *four* Class 1 misdemeanors (guilty adjudications) without a felony.



- The average daily population (ADP) for state responsible juvenile offenders peaked in October 1999, with an ADP of 1,462.
- The monthly ADP has declined steadily since October 1999.
- The ADP for FY2010 was 859 juveniles; the September ADP in 2010 was 821.
- The Policy Advisory Committee for the Secretary of Public Safety's Offender Population Forecasting Committee believes that the longer lengths of stay for indeterminately committed youth and the increased number of determinate/blended sentences will lead to an increase in the state responsible population beginning in FY2014.

## **In recent years the characteristics of juveniles committed to DJJ has changed.**

- Determinate and blended commitments, as a percent of total commitments, have increased since FY2000
- Determinate sentences appear to have stabilized at longer sentences (about 40 months on average)
- Longer indeterminate lengths of stay have increased dramatically since 1996
- ADP has steadily declined since October 1999
  - Longer lengths of stay appear to be offset by declining admissions. These factors contribute to the drop in ADP

# The Current Population Profile of JCCs

A snapshot of the population on July 1, 2010:

- 815 total juveniles
  - 279 (34%) juveniles had a circuit court commitment
    - 77 juveniles had a blended sentence
  - 228 (28%) with a determinate commitment
  - 237 (29%) with a sentence of 36 months or more

Bottom line:

- Current population has 67 juveniles with at least three more years remaining on their sentence (determinate/blended). Including juveniles with an indeterminate LOS category of 18 months or more, there are 523 juveniles who will be held by DJJ for greater than 18 months (64% of the total population).



# ***Recidivism***

*The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice – Successful Youth, Strong Families, Safe Communities*

# Recidivism Definition

- Official measure is percentage of those who are reconvicted of a Class 1 Misdemeanor or a Felony based on an arrest made within 12 months of being placed on probation or being released from a JCC back to community
  - (Does not include those discharged to DOC to serve remainder of sentence)

## Notes:

- States do not use a consistent definition for recidivism, so comparisons are difficult.
- Based upon an analysis of available data from other states, Virginia experiences a lower recidivism rate than most other states.
- Recidivism analysis is conducted in the fall and completed in December of each year.



# Recidivism Rates

## Probation Placements:

- Twelve-month reconviction rates ranged from 26.1% to 27.6% for those placed on probation between FY 2004 and FY 2007.

## JCC Releases:

- Twelve-month reconviction rates ranged from 36.4% to 43.5% for those released from a JCC between FY 2004 and FY 2007.

# Twelve-Month Reoffense Rates, FY 2004-2008

	JCC Releases					Probation Placements				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Rearrest	53.8%	51.3%	45.6%	52.7%	46.9%	36.5%	36.8%	37.5%	36.6%	37.0%
Reconviction	43.5%	38.8%	36.4%	41.5%	N/A	26.1%	27.4%	27.6%	26.1%	N/A
Reincarceration	30.7%	27.1%	26.7%	27.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- Twelve-month reconviction rates for FY 2007:
  - 41.5% for juveniles released from the JCCs
  - 26.1% for juveniles placed on probation
- JCC Releases had higher 12-month rearrest rates than Probation Placements between FY 2004 and FY 2008 and higher 12-month reconviction rates between FY 2004 and FY 2007.



# ***Special Projects and Initiatives***

*The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice – Successful Youth, Strong Families, Safe Communities*

# Re-Entry

- Governor's Executive Order 11
- DJJ Re-Entry Strategic Plan

# Special Projects and Initiatives

- Re-entry to Education and Employment Program (REEP)
- Workforce Education and Employment program (WERP)
- Family Link
- Faith-based Mentoring project
- Cal Ripkin, Sr. Foundation – Badges for Baseball
- Orientation video
- Youth Industries
- Second Chance Grant